THE TURRET

JANUARY 1918

PUBLISHED BY
THE CHILDREN OF
MISS TOWER'S SCHOOL
SALEM · MASSACHUSETTS

·K·S·

EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR IN CHIEF . .	Marian Upton
ASSISTANT EDITORS .	Sally Parker Virginia Enos
ART EDITOR . .	Katharine Sanders
ASSISTANT ART EDITOR .	Ruth Ropes
NEWS EDITOR . .	Richard Thompson
JOKE EDITOR . . .	Benjamin Shreve
BUSINESS MANAGER .	Delano Kennard
ASSISTANT BUS. MANG'R. .	Stephen Phillips
OCTAVIA PEIRSON . . .	Chief Sales Agent

THE TURRET

JANUARY, 1918 Price, 10 Cents a Copy

EDITORIAL

This is the beginning of a new year for everybody. And everybody is hoping and wishing that the war will end this year. We're all trying to help our soldiers and cheer them up. There are hundreds of things we can do to help: make trench candles, write to them, make scrap books and knit etc. We are all trying to do our best. I hope you will like the "Turret" this month.

MARIAN UPTON, age 11

WISHES FOR 1918

I wish you all a happy New Year,
And hope that spring will soon be here,
With grass so green and all sorts of flowers,
Violets, snowdrops, and April showers.

I wish a happy summer for you,
In country, seashore, and city too.
In country are animals, fields, and barns,
At seashore are sailors with int'resting yarns.

A happy autumn I wish you all,
With bright-colored leaves always on the fall,
And grass turning brown,
With the leaves falling down.

I wish you a Christmas so jolly,
That you'll hang up your door with spruce and holly.
And snow-flakes falling all round,
While you hear Christmas bells resound.

KATHARINE SANDERS, age 9

WINTER

I like winter because I like to make snow men and I like to go down the hill with my sled.

It is fun to skate in my yard with Margaret and then go in to a warm house.

ELINOR HARRIS, age 7

THE CONQUEST OF ENGLAND

William of Normandy was getting a great fleet of ships and a great army to destroy Harold, King of England, because he wanted to be King. William had two grounds to go on: first he said that the old King had promised he should be the next King; second, he said Earl Harold had once been shipwrecked on Normandy and had said he would help him in every way to get the Kingdom. And now Earl Harold was King.

Harold had all his men ready for an attack on the coast, but no William came. After a while his men had to go back to their farms. The trouble was with the wind. William would have come much earlier but there was no wind to make his ship go. When at last he did come, no one tried to stop him, for Harold could not get his army together for two weeks.

At last there was a great battle at Hastings in which the Normans were victorious, having entirely routed Harold by playing the trick of a fake retreat.

At last the English succeeded in rallying again, when an arrow struck Harold in the eye and badly wounded him. When the English soldiers saw this they ran and ran. There was severe fighting between the two sides. William had three of the best horses shot under him and in the end he was unhelmed. Harold was always protecting his banner, but it was finally captured by William.

After William had won, he went to London, burning a town by way of teaching England he wanted his conquest to be complete. When he reached London, a kind of council called the Witenagemot were so completely frightened that they came out of the city and offered him the crown.

STEPHEN PHILLIPS, age 10

JANUARY

Now January has come—
    The cold and frosty weather.
It makes us want to run
    And get up close together.
Then we see the little birds
    Come hopping round for bread.
As we heard their little words,
    What do you think they said?
"Thank you! Thank you, people all,
    For giving us a meal!
You must have heard our little call,
    And now our hearts so happy feel."

RUTH ROBINSON ROPES, age 9

JANUARY

I love January because the stars shine brightly. They peek in my window. One night when I was coming home from dancing school I saw a great big star shooting through the sky. The moon shines brightly in January too.

MARGARET DAVIS, age 7

DANIEL MORGAN

Daniel was a rough man though unselfish. At the age of seventeen Daniel became a wagoner. Daniel joined the army of Braddock. A lot of teamsters whipped up their horses and fled. But Daniel waited to take up the wounded in his wagon. When Daniel was twenty-three he was a giant. He weighed almost two hundred pounds, and he was six feet, four inches tall.

Morgan was taking an important message to another fort. As he went through some bushes, a ball struck him in the neck, and he was faint with loss of blood, and the ball came out of his mouth. An Indian had struck him with a ball. To save himself he flung his arms around his horse, and went far into the wilderness. He got away from all of the Indians but one, and that one chased him, thinking Daniel would fall off his horse. But Daniel clung, and finally the Indian gave up the chase, and Morgan reached the fort safely. But it took him six months to get well.

SALLY PARKER, age 10

THE GOOD CHILDREN

Once upon a time there were two children and one day in January they asked their mother if they could go to play with Elinor, and their mother said, "Yes, but you must come home at five o'clock." Away they went. Pretty soon they came to Elinor's house and they played and played. Pretty soon one of them said, "What time did mother say for us to come?" Then one of them said, "At five o'clock." "Oh, then we must go right home." And away they went right into the house.

BILLY MUNROE, age 6

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

(Told orally and taken down verbatim.)

When Columbus was a boy, he liked the water. He liked to look out to sea. When he grew up he wanted to have a boat and go out to sea. He went to the King of Portugal. He asked him for some boats. He wanted to find a shorter way to India.

The King of Portugal borrowed Columbus' maps and sent a ship out to sea to discover a new way to India. The ships came back because the sailors were discouraged and did not dare go on.

Columbus now went to the King and Queen of Spain to ask them for ships. They called the wise men and asked them if it were wise for them to give him ships and they said, "No."

Then Columbus started for Spain. He took Diego with him. His

little boy was hungry and thirsty and they stopped at a monastery. The monk called his friends in to hear about the plans of Columbus.

Martin Pinzon told the Queen to call Columbus to court again and listen to his plans. Columbus wanted 1-10 of the land and to be made governor of the new land. The Queen would not agree to this, so Columbus started again for France, but a swift messenger caught up with him and said that Queen Isabella would agree to his terms. When things were ready Columbus started off with the sailors. The friends on the shore thought they would never see the men again. Columbus stopped at the Canary Islands to mend the rudder. The water was so warm at times that the men swam beside the boat. They wanted to throw Columbus overboard, but some one said it would be wise not to, for they would need him on the homeward journey.

One night they saw a light going up and down. About 2 o'clock in the morning some one cried, "Land!" At day light they landed and Columbus put the flag of Spain into the ground. The Indians thought they were gods. Columbus named the island San Salvador.

Later they went to Cuba and Haiti. One day when the Santa Maria was sailing along the shore, it was wrecked. They used the wreck to build a fort and left some people in the fort with plenty of supplies. Then Columbus sailed for Spain. One day the Pinta had disappeared. Martin Pinzon had gone off with it. He wanted to tell the King and Queen of Spain all he had discovered. He went to court to see the Queen and took six Indians with him. This was the happiest moment of Columbus' life.

On his second voyage Columbus had 17 ships. He went back to Haiti. When they got to Haiti they found that the fort had been burned and they began to dig around and found the savages had killed some of the men. The men were disappointed because they did not find gold and silver. Some of the sailors took boats and went back to Spain and told that Columbus treated them cruelly, but the Queen could not believe it. Then Columbus went to Spain to tell the Queen that he had not treated them cruelly. He left his brother governor of Haiti.

Now he started on his third voyage. He went to the Canary Is. and divided his ships. Some went back to Haiti and Columbus went farther south. One day the ship came near being swamped because they came to a place where a big river was flowing into the sea. It was the Orinoco River. Then Columbus went to Haiti. The Queen sent over a new governor to run the island and he put Columbus in chains and sent him back to Spain. The Captain offered to take off the chains but Columbus wouldn't let him do it.

When they reached Spain the Queen took Columbus out of chains. Columbus was weary and sad.

A few years later he started out again. He sailed to Central America, and sailed along the coast. They were wrecked at Jamaica. They sent two brave men in a canoe to Haiti for help, but they did not get help for a year. Columbus told the Indians that God would not let them see the sun if they did not give them food. The next day there was an eclipse. They were afraid and so gave them food. Columbus went back to Spain and after two years Columbus died.

KING UPTON, age 8

NEW YEAR

The glad New Year has come at last,
And sleds slide down hills very fast.
Aren't you glad the year lasts long?
I hope you'll like this little song.

VIRGINIA B. ENOS, age 10

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT JAN.

Jan. is such a good time to see all the stars in the sky,— Orion and his belt, and Venus.

I like to slide over at the Salem Golf Club with daddy and mother.

HAMILTON BROWN, age 6

COASTING

Of all the fun in Winter,
I think I like the most,
To take my sled out on the hills,
To coast, and coast, and coast.
The joy of rushing through the air
At such a jolly pace,
Makes all of us so happy
And brings roses to our face.

(Written at home) JANICE VAUGHAN, age 7

WHO IS IT?

There is someone in this room who seems to be working busily with a wrinkled-up forehead as if it was hard work. He seems like a very wise old man when he pulls out his lower lip and rumples his light hair with his hand. His eyes are blue and very merry, and are often winking and squinting. He is small though not fat, for he is as nimble as a monkey and runs swiftly as a deer. He sits up straight most always. He usually wears different shades of brown.

KATHARINE SANDERS, age 9

MY DIARY

Sun. I stayed in the house and read the funny paper. My grandfather came over to dinner.

Mon. I went to school.

Tues. Miss Tower came back from her wedding trip. Ellen Quincy came to my house to dinner. In the afternoon we got dressed up like Red Cross nurses.

Wed. In the morning circle we gave Mrs. Hall the service flag we made. The fifth and sixth grades made one too.

Thurs. We had French and drawing at school. In the afternoon I went to dancing school.

Fri. I went to school. We are studying about pyramids and the sphinx.

ELINOR MAHONEY, age 8

THE WINTER

When the winter is cold and nice,
The little children slide on ice,
And when it lasts a long, long time,
Then we think it's very fine.
If the weather stays too cold,
It's hard upon the very old.
They do not thing it is so nice
To slip and slide upon the ice.

(Written at home) OCTAVIA PIERSON, age 9

DANIEL MORGAN

Daniel Morgan was once sent from one fort to another, with important dispatches. As he was riding along, he and his followers fell into an Indian trap. Morgan was shot in the neck and the ball passed out of his mouth, but he was determined to save his body from the Indian tomahawks. He threw his arms around his horse's neck, and outrode all the Indians. His good horse took him back to the fort, but it took him six months to get well from his wound.

RICHARD H. THOMPSON, age 10

VIKINGS' RAIDS

But when do come the winter gales,
Which do blow out all kinds of sails,
The Northman down on France will come,
Bringing with him no good sun;
Bringing only plunder,
Burning everywhere;
Burning every single lair,
Which the people can find there.

STEPHEN PHILLIPS, age 10

FEUDALISM

The King was supposed to own all the land. When any knight or bishop or anyone did something the King liked, he was asked to come before the King. The King would hold the person's hand and the person who came before the King would say, "I become liege man of yours for life and limb and death. God help me." Then the King with a kiss would grant the man some land. This was called doing homage.

Sometimes the vassals or landowners would break their word and then the King would make them give back the land. There was a great deal of fighting because the person who owned quite a little land would try to get some land from a man who did not own as much as he did. The lord of the land would have to protect the poorer man.

The Monastery was the only safe place for a man to live in for there was no fighting in them.

During the year, if the eldest daughter was married or the eldest son became a knight, the tenants would have to raise a sum of money. If the master was captured, a ransom had to be raised. These were called the three feudal aids.

A bishop in France made a statement which said that no fighting, robbing, or killing should be done on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. This was called the "Truce of God." Soon England and Germany, seeing what a safe thing it was, adopted it.

DELANO KENNARD, age 10

JANUARY

Oh, January, how dost thou
Hold the snow on every bough,
Keeping birds and insects warm,
Safe and sound from every harm!

RICHARD THOMPSON, age 10

COLUMBUS AT THE DINNER

After Columbus made his voyages there was a dinner and Columbus was at it. A man at the table was a little jealous of Columbus and said, "Any man could discover the way to India. That's nothing." Columbus took an egg and said, "Can anyone stand this egg on end?" Everyone tried and when the egg came to the man who was jealous he tried, too. He said it was not possible. When the egg came back to Columbus he just cracked it a little and it stood on end. Columbus said, "You could not stand this egg on end until I showed you how and you could not discover the way to India until I showed you the way."

BILLY NORTHEY, age 8

THE GOVERNMENT OF WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR

William was now legally King of England as he had been chosen by the Witenagemot. He made as many changes in the laws of the land as he thought he might safely do.

He also took over the English land and made the Normans landlords. In return the Normans had to take a pledge of eternal loyalty to him, and the servants of the landlords had to do the same both to William and the landlord.

William had forts built around or near all the large cities, garrisoned by Norman soldiers to prevent an English revolt. But what he feared almost more than a rebellion by the English was one by his own Norman lords. To prevent this he scattered their possessions all over the country, that no earl might get his forces together quickly.

William introduced the curfew bell which was rung at dusk. When this bell rang everybody had to put out their fires so as to prevent fire.

The King was very fond of hunting, so he had sixty thousand acres of land set aside for that purpose, named the New Forest.

The people did not think that William's way of governing them was good, but it did England a great deal of good. One reason was that he united all the English and the Normans under one rule.

MARIAN UPTON, age 11

THE DOOMSDAY BOOK

By all of William's people feared,
Was the "Doomsday Book",
In it everything appeared,
What they owned and what they took.

KATHARINE SANDERS, age 9

THE U-BOATS

The U-boats are bold,
Like the Vikings of old,
But the Vikings met fate,
Like the U-boats of late.

DELANO KENNARD, age 10

MY DIARY

Sun. I read the paper.
Mon. I came up in the Vaughans' car because the train was taken off. It was a holiday.
Tues. Mrs. Hall came back.
Wed. We gave Mrs. Hall the service flags we made for her.
Thurs. We had French.
Fri. The fifth grade read us a story.

BETTY MOULTON, age 9

WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR

William of Normandy —
A conqueror was he,
Who landed his forces
At Pevensey.

The English all felt
So very forlorn
On that lovely
September morn.

When the great battle
Of Hastings was fought,
'Twas Harold of England's
Life that was sought.

An arrow pierced
Great Harold's eye.
England was sorry
That he must die.

And a tyrannous king
Ruled all English men.
It did England good,—
Though they thought not so then.

MARIAN UPTON, age 11

COMPARISONS SUGGESTED IN ENGLISH VI

Fleet as a deer— Katherine Kelsey, because she is so limber.
Gentle as a dove— Ruth Ropes, because she is very quiet at school.
Busy as a bee— Marian, because she is making up poetry.
Happy as a lark— I, because I got a star in spelling.

KATHARINE SANDERS, age 9

Spry as a cricket— Richard, because he can run so well in Red Rover.
Hungry as a wolf— Sally, because she likes candy so well.

STEPHEN PHILLIPS, age 10

THE NEW YEAR

January always brings
A new beginning year,
It really always brings us
A great lot of cheer.

SALLY PARKER, age 10

THE GOOD GIRL

Once there was a little girl and she had a very bad cold and couldn't go out to play with the girls. She asked her mother if she could have Margaret in to play with her. Her mother said "Yes," so she looked out the window and called Margaret. Margaret came on in the house and played with me because I had a very bad cold.

(Written at home) MARY IVES, age 6

FEUDALISM

In the time of the Middle Ages a King owned all the land that he ruled, and if he wanted to give land away he would make the lord become his vassal by making him do homage. This was done by kneeling bare-headed and unarmed before the King and placing his hands between the King's and saying, "I become your liege man, for life and limb and death, God help me. Then the King with a kiss bestowed on him the land.

It was now the lord's turn, for now any lower person could be the lord's vassal and receive land from him, doing homage.

Besides this, the under vassals and the tenants and the sub-tenants had to give forty days of military service to their lord. Besides they had to give money when the lord's eldest son became a knight, or when the lord's eldest daughter became married, or to pay ransom if their lord were captured. In return for this, the lord had to protect them and see that they were treated justly.

However, these oaths were not always kept, for if a vassal thought himself stronger, he broke his oath, and using his vassals, fought against his own lord. Often too, vassals would change their allegiance from one lord to another. Weaker men got trampled down and stronger men rose up.

Monasteries were the only safe place for people, for in them people could stay in peace.

At last a priest over in France set aside three days in every week, these being Friday, Saturday and Sunday, in which there could be no fighting. This was called "the truce of God."

STEPHEN PHILLIPS, age 10

ON THE ICE

I was out with my sled
When I saw a boy, Ned.

I went upon the ice
That was so slippery nice.

And down I went
And found a cent.

I went into the house
And there I saw a mouse.

Then I went to bed
And dreamed about my sled.

(Written at home) ELLEN QUINCY, age 8

SPELLING STORIES

Miss Warner asked the fourth grade to make up stories using their spelling words.

A VISITOR came to the OFFICE at nine O'CLOCK. He had seen the SIGN on the house. He was in TROUBLE because he had a PAIN. While he was waiting he saw a NUMBER of COWSLIPS. He POURED some water on the BLOSSOMS. He saw a PIGEON outside the window and gave him a PEANUT that he had in his SHIRT SLEEVE. It was the YEAR of 1918. On his way home there was a STORM and in the MIDDLE of the AVENUE he stepped into a DITCH.

The next day he went to a CIRCUS and saw a clown CLIMB a pole and dance. He took off his JACKET and COLLAR. He saw the man PITCH the hay to the elephant and he LAUGHED. It was GETTING dark so he started to go home and fell over a FOOTSTOOL.

OCTAVIA PEIRSON, age 9

One day I saw a PEDDLER. He was looking for the RAINBOW. He had a very HEAVY LOAD on his back. I was afraid of him. I got almost to the MIDDLE of the town and I saw him again. An HOUR had passed. I just happened to see a PIGEON. To get home I had to CLIMB a fence. I tore my SLEEVE. SOMEBODY was going to help me and I ran home. It began to POUR. There was a CIRCUS passing by.

I TEASED to go out and see it but mother would not let me because it was GETTING dark. I saw SOMETHING and I asked her what it was. She said it was a COWSLIP. It was seven O'CLOCK and time to go to bed.

ELLEN QUINCY, age 8

WHEN COLUMBUS WAS A BOY

Columbus was born in Genoa in about 1436. He worked with his father in the field combing wool. When he was about ten years old he went to school for four years. He would sit by the harbor and watch the boats come in.

Columbus wanted to find a way to India. He tried to get some people to go on his first voyage. Men had to be taken out of prison, but at last he got 88 men to go.

He had three boats named the Nina and the Santa Maria and the Pinta. At last he was ready for the voyage. As the little company rode away the priest blessed them. They started in to the unknown sea which they called the sea of darkness. The sailors thought they would never see land again. One day as they were out in the middle of the sea, they thought that they would throw Columbus overboard, but they thought they would need him going back to Spain. After a while the boat was broken and they had to stop at the Canary Islands to get the rudder fixed. The people greeted them gladly because it was part of Spain. Some of the men in Columbus' boat had broken the rudder because they wanted to go back. They sailed away from the Canary Islands and when they were out of sight of land the men cried like little children. Then they saw a grassy place and some of the men thought they would get stuck in the grass. The wind was strong and it carried them through. But still they wanted to turn back.

One day they saw birds coming and wild ducks and wild geese and in the night they saw a torch lighted as if some one was walking along the shore. In the morning someone on the boat called, "Land, land!" They sang a hymn of praise, and prepared to leave the boat. Columbus saw some people on land. He anchored the boats and got out and kissed the ground and stuck the flag of Spain in the ground. The black people thought that the Spaniards were great gods that came down from the sky. And they thought the boats were big monsters, and they hid and were afraid, but after awhile they were friendly with Columbus. Columbus thought he was in Asia but it was one of the Bahama Islands. He stayed there for ten days. Then he went to a place called Cuba.

One day the Santa Maria was wrecked. Martin Pinzon took the Pinta and went away. Now they only had one boat for 87 men. So they made a fort and left plenty of supplies for some of the men. Pinzon did a mean trick to Columbus. He told the King and Queen that he found the places, but Columbus really had found them.

Columbus went back to Spain. Now was the happiest time in his life.

He was to be received by the King and Queen. First came six Indians and next came stuffed birds and lots of thing that he found. So the King and the Queen did not let Martin Pinzon come in the court once more. After a few days Columbus' friend Pinzon died. Some people thought he died from a broken heart.

KATHERINE KELSEY, age 8

THE NEW YEAR

New Year's Day is very nice,
Because there is such lots of ice.
Out goes the old year in a hurry!
The New Year's name is Very Merry.

RUSSIA

The Russians are like the French when they gained their Independence. The French when they gained their Independence did not know what to do with themselves, for they were so glad to be free from the King.

The Russians are the same, but they will soon be under Germany if they keep on going the way they are going by killing their officers.

The French were not quite so foolish and now they are a good nation.

Perhaps the Russians will in time turn out as good as the French.

(Written at home) DELANO KENNARD, age 10

SCHOOL NEWS

We had a Christmas Play on Friday, December 21. The kindergarten children had their Christmas tree on Thursday, December 20. They were in the Christmas play too.

A. K. T.

George Upton and Charles Whipple are coming to kindergarten now.

This month we are having "Do your Best" as a motto.

M. U.

January 18th, Friday, in the morning circle, Marie Merrill read us a little story about the crow and the pitcher. Then we each read some poetry that we had made up.

R. R. R.

In drawing we are making two service flags. The first, second, third and fourth grades are making one, while the fifth and sixth grades are making the other.

One of the flags is for Mrs Hall to take down to South Carolina. One of the stars is for Mrs. Hall's brother, the other is for Capt Hall.

R. T.

We are making a book of funny birds and animals for the poor children in France.

ELIZABETH SANDERS, age 6

I made part of a service flag for Miss Tower.

NAT GOODHUE, age 5

Mrs. Hall came home to-day, Jan. 23, and when we were in the morning circle we said good morning to her. We said, "Good morning, Miss Tower," and her real name was Mrs. Hall.

BARBARA COBURN, age 7

JOKES

"THE ENTRY"

Some suggestions have been made about changing the name of the "Turret." That means small Tower which Miss Tower was. Now that she is married to Capt. Hall she is a small Hall, which is an entry. So the name of the "Turret" ought to be "The Entry."

MARIAN UPTON

Why did the farmer's wife name the rooster Robinson?
Because Robinson Crusoe.
Why did the fly fly?
Because the spider spied her.

SALLY PARKER

One day in spelling Miss Runnette said, "Pass the papers to the front." And I said, "How can we pass the papers to the front when the front is in France?"

VIRGINIA ENOS

Why not leave a clock on the edge of the stairs?
Because it might run down.

BEN SHREVE

Some one said to be sure to save all the banana skins as they make good slippers.

VIRGINIA ENOS

One morning I was lying in bed. Billy had a pocket book. He put it up and it looked like an owl. I put my finger up and made believe to shoot it. It fell down and its fifty senses dropped out. It was a fifty cent piece. Do you see the joke?

BEN SHREVE

Why is the poorhouse the head of Salem? Because it is on the neck.

STEPHEN PHILLIPS

One day I saw a little red man with a stick in his hat and a stone in his throat. He was a cherry.

BEN SHREVE

One day in spelling Miss Warner gave us the word WRONG, and Miss Warner said, "Let this be the only wrong word on the page!"

E. MAHONEY

RIDDLES

Why are the oats we eat in oatmeal more peaceable than those the horse eats? Because they are Quaker Oats.

Why is the horse the proudest animal wherever she may be, if she has a colt now, or at any time? Because she's a mare.

How do you spell something with three letters that may be long, short, thick, thin, wide and it may be of one color or it may be of a great many colors? R-U-G.

STEPHEN PHILLILPS

How do you spell heaven with three letters? S-K-Y.

VIRGINIA ENOS

SANTA CLAUS'S HELPERS

(This was our Christmas play as it worked itself out in the different classes)

I

THE PROLOGUE

PLACE: Home
TIME: Christmas Eve

CHARACTERS

Mother ..... Marian Upton
Father ..... Ben Shreve
Their children ..children of 5th and 6th grades

(The young children are in bed and the older ones are sitting with the mother by the fireplace).

SALLY: Mother, what time does Santa Claus come?

MOTHER: Well, dear, I guess he comes when children are asleep.

RUTH: I wish you knew, because I want to watch for him.

KATHARINE: I don't like to watch for him. I like to be surprised in the morning, but still I'd like to see him.

AUDREY: Wouldn't it be fun to stay up and watch for him?

MOTHER: I guess it is time for children to be in bed.

RICHARD: No,—but mother, doesn't anyone help him?

MOTHER: I think he has brownies.

BETTY: I wish I knew what his house was like.

MOTHER: It's not like any other house and I don't know exactly what it is like.

STEPHEN: I wish I could help him; he must be terribly busy.

VIRGINIA: I wish you knew a Christmas story to tell us.

DELANO: Yes! Please tell us one.

MOTHER: All right, I'll tell you one in French. It's called "Noel," and it's by Theophile Gautier.

Le ciel est noir, la terre est blanche;
—Cloches, carillonnez gaiment!
Jesus est ne; la Vierge penche
Sur lui son visage charmant.

Pas de courtines festonnees
Pour preserver l'enfant du froid;
Rien que les toiles d'araignees
Qui pendent des poutres du toit.

Il tremble sur la paille fraiche,
Ce cher petit enfant, Jesus;
Et, pour l'echauffer dans sa creche,
L'ane et le boeuf soufflent dessus.

La neige au chaume coud ses franges,
Mais sur le toit s' ouvre le ciel,
Et, tout en blanc, le choeur des anges
Chante aux bergers: "Noel! Noel!"

DELANO: That was a good story.

AUDREY: But what does "Noel" mean?

MOTHER: It means "Christmas", and it tells how Jesus had only a stable for a home that first Christmas.

Now, children, you really must go to bed.

ALL (protesting): Oh, mother, no! Do let us stay!

FATHER: (entering with arms full of packages) Yes, children, run right along to bed.

CHILDREN: Oh here's Father! What have you got, Father? Let's see, father!

FATHER (shooing the children off): Run along now! Get to bed, all of you!

EXIT ALL.

CURTAIN

THE DREAM

SCENE I

CHARACTERS

Mrs. Santa Claus .....Rebecca Benson
Children ..... Virginia Arnold - Eben Jewett
Jean Missud - Elizabeth Sanders
Richard Shreve - Nat Goodhue

PLACE: A street with three doors of houses visible. On one, a holly wreath hanging, on another, a spray of holly, and on third, a Christmas bell.

Children should have leggings, hats, coats, etc. on—Stamp feet as if it were very cold— Clap hands together.

VIRGINIA: How surprised mother would be if she knew we were trying to find Santa Claus' house! What fun it will be when we do find it and say we've come to help!

NAT: I wish we could find it now.

RICHARD: My hands are getting cold!

ELIZABETH: And my feet are frozen!

EBEN: What's that? (Pointing to door with holly spray). That might be the house. See! It has a spray of holly on it!

JEAN: But so has this one! (Pointing to door with wreath). Didn't mother say Santa's house looked different from other people's?

VIRGINIA: THIS must be it! (Pointing to screen.) Oh, see the pretty bell! Let's ring!

(All crowd around, while Virginia pulls the Christmas bell. They wait—no one answers the bell.)

NAT: I don't believe this is the house. And my feet are cold!

ELIZABETH: Ring it again, Virginia.

JEAN: Here, I'll do it, I'm bigger. I'll pull harder. (He gives a big pul. Sounds are heard behind screen. Mrs. Santa Claus finally opens door, sticking only her head out.)

MRS. SANTA: Deary, deary me! who is pulling that bell so? Bless us!! (as she sees children)—what do YOU want?

ALL CHILDREN (at once): We want to see Santa Claus! We've come to help! Please let us in! (etc., etc).

MRS. SANTA (putting hands over ears): Bless me! How can I hear when you all talk at once! Now you (points to Virginia) tell me who you are and why you came.

VIRGINIA: We thought you and Santa would be so busy that you'd like a little help, ——

EBEN (interupting): Oh, please let us stay and help!

RICHARD: We'll be awfully good!

MRS. SANTA: Well, if this isn't lucky! Of course I'll let you help. Do you know what has happened? Santa went out early this evening to take some presents, and he hasn't come back yet! I'm so worried I I don't know what to do, for his pack isn't filled yet, and the reindeer aren't harnessed, and I don't know how we'll ever get ready. Come right in!

CHILDREN: Oh, thank you! We'll help all we can! (enter joyously).

CURTAIN

SCENE II: Santa Claus' House.

In one corner, group of children, (King Upton, Barbara Coburn, Billy Shreve) tying parcels and making toys. Table in front of them, with paper and string, hammers and paint brushes.

In centre, 4th grade children, some with afghan squares, others with toys. Margaret Ives, Ellen Quincy, Elinor Mahoney, Katharine Kelsey, Janice Vaughan, and Octavia Peirson.

In another corner, Margaret Davis, Elinor Harris, Billy Munroe, Mary Ives, Marie Merrill, and Hamilton Brown filling Santa Claus' pack.

Mrs. Santa is bustling around from one group to another.

MARGARET IVES: (running over to Mrs. Santa and holding up the afghan squares): There, Mrs. Santa , do you think we have enough squares for the afghan now?

MRS. SANTA (looks at it): Yes, my dear. They look very pretty.

MARGARET: But how will we get it all sewed up?

MRS. SANTA: Oh, I have a grown up helper who will sew it for us.

MARGARET: And will Santa surely take it to the soldiers?

MRS. SANTA: He certainly will. (aside) Oh, how I wish he would come! It's ten o'clock now! (looking at clock).

ELLEN (calling to Mrs. Santa): Oh, Mrs. Santa Claus, do you think this drum had better go to little lame Jack? He never can run around and play with it.

MRS. SANTA: Yes, but he can PRETEND he is marching; and you know sometimes that makes you just as happy as really doing things. Goodness! what are you doing, children? (she runs to corner, where Hamilton is stuffing a doll into the pack, face down). Poor doll, she'll have a very uncomfortable trip if she goes that way. (She arranges doll so it sticks up.)

MARGARET DAVIS: The pack is half way full now. Don't you

think it looks nice?

MARIE: And isn't this the prettiest dolly? It is going to the little sick girl near us. (holding it up).

MARY IVES,: These toys are all going to the poor little French children, aren't they, Mrs. Santa?

HAMILTON: Aren't you glad you let us in to help you?

KING (from other corner): Oh, Mrs. Santa Claus, I can't tie this nicely. Will you help me?

MRS. SANTA: Yes, indeed (she goes over to corner, looking at clock as she goes) Oh dear, I do wish Santa would come. It's half past ten and the reindeer aren't even harnessed.

(Exit Billy Shreve)

MRS. SANTA: Where are you going, Billy?

BILLY S.: Oh, I'll be back in a minute, Mrs Santa. Don't worry.

KATHERINE KELSEY: Mrs. Santa, do you think this stocking is full now? (holding up a child's stocking).

MRS. SANTA: Yes, but stick in an extra orange, because that stocking is for little Bobbie who is so poor.

JANICE: Mrs. Santa, everything is ready over here now.

BARBARA: These things are all ready too.

ELINOR H.: And our pack is stuffed full.

(All stand waiting by their respective piles of things).

MRS. SANTA (wringing her hands): What shall we do, children? We just must have Santa. We CAN'T have Christmas without Santa Claus!

BILLY M.: Never mind, Mrs. Santa. If he doesn't come, we'll drive the sleigh, and take every gift around.

MRS. SANTA: But who can harness the reindeer? Oh dear, oh dear!

(Enter) BILLY SHREVE: What's that about harnessing the reindeer, Mrs. Santa? It's all done. Don't you hear them outside? (sounds of bells).

MRS. SANTA: Did you do that all yourself? I'm proud of you, Billy.

OCTAVIA: Mrs. Santa, Mrs. Santa! I hear something! Do you suppose it's Santa Claus?

(Sound of someone running—tramping of feet. Door bursts open and in rushes Santa, covered with snow from head to foot).

SANTA: Well, well, well, well, well!!!!! What's all this?

(Children all try to talk at once.) Here, you tell me, little girl (pointing to Elinor M.)

ELINOR M.: We came to help you and you weren't here and Mrs. Santa was afraid you wouldn't come, so we've been working and working.

BILLY M.: I was going to drive your sleigh.

BILLY S.: I harnessed the reindeer.

ALL: And EVERYTHING'S all ready, See!

SANTA: Well, bless my soul! you're the best helpers I ever did see. (To Mrs. Santa). I thought I never would get here. I've been "over there," and it did take a lot of time to give a Christmas present to every soldier in the trenches. But they were so happy that I'm glad I went.

Now—pack all ready? and reindeer harnessed? Then I must be off! Good-bye, helpers! I'll see you later when you're all asleep!
(Exit Santa)

CURTAIN

(As all shout) : Good-bye, Santa, see you later!

SCENE III: Kindergarten children all asleep. Stockings hang limply by fireplace. All is quiet. A toy mouse is curled up asleep by the fireplace and a clock is striking 12.

Sound of bells away off in the distance, growing louder. Shouts of "Hey Donner, Ho Blitzen!" SANTA bustles in, all a-smile, humming Santa Claus song. Sees children and stockings—chuckles, begins to sing:-

Old Santa Claus puts on his cap,
And buckles it under his chin;
He laughs and sings as he fills his pack,
And straps it over his sturdy back,
"I'll crowd all I can within.
For girls and boys
Such pretty toys!
I've dolls and drums
And sugar plums,
For all little girls and boys!"

(From Song Echoes in Childland)

Santa tiptoes to stockings and begins to fill them, singing softly as he does so. He stuffs them full, chuckling all the while; then places a toy or two beside each sleeping child. Exit laughing and humming. Calls of "Donner—Blitzen" are heard. Sound of bells growing fainter, passing away.

Children awake. See stockings. Run and get them and unpack, sitting on beds. Laugh and chatter about contents.

CURTAIN

EPILOGUE

CHARACTERS AND PLACE:— As in Prologue.

TIME:— Christmas morning.

FATHER: (standing in front of fire warming hands and chuckling).

(Enter) MOTHER.

FATHER: Good-morning and Merry Christmas, mother!

MOTHER: Merry Christmas to you! It's a merry one all right. Do you hear the children? (sounds of laughter).

FATHER: Ha-ha-ha! I wish Christmas came every day. Why! what's this? (Door bursts open and older children rush in—all excitement).

ALL: Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas!

SALLY: Mother, what DO you suppose we dreamed last night?

VIRGINIA: We all dreamed the very same thing!

KATHARINE: We helped Santa Claus all night long!

RUTH: And he took our afghan over to the soldiers!

STEPHEN: We even harnessed up the reindeer!

DELANO: And stuffed his pack full!

BETTY: It was such fun!

AUDREY: I wish we could do it all over again!

MOTHER: Why don't you be real helpers to-day, instead of just dream helpers?

ALL: How? Tell us how!

MOTHER: Do you suppose Santa went to every single house? Don't you think you might try to find the houses where he didn't go, or could leave only one toy perhaps?

RICHARD: But where are "Donner and Blitzen?"

FATHER: Ha ha ha ha ha !!!!! "Donner and Blitzen" are a new little car resting in a new little garage, waiting for a chance to say Merry Christmas to mother and all of you!

SALLY: Oh, let's go see!

ALL: Hooray for Santa Claus' helpers! Hooray, hooray!

CURTAIN

THE END